ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 14th, 2025 | Third Sunday of Advent | Painting by: Alexander Adriaenssen

FROM OUR PRIESTS

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Blessed Sunday to you all! The season of Advent is all about preparing for Jesus Christ to come to us, whether in remembering His First Coming as a child in Bethlehem, looking ahead to His Second Coming in glory, or experiencing His hidden coming within the life of the Church. Today is set aside for rejoicing, for we know by faith the full impact of Jesus' coming.

Two weeks ago, when the Advent wreath was blessed, we prayed that "the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May He come quickly and not delay." We are not simply accepting that the Son of God entered once into history and promised that He would come again. We rejoice because God became man, and He will come again to reign in power and majesty. On top of that, He promised that He would be with us always (cf. Matthew 28:20) and that His power and His Spirit would lead and guide us. If this is not cause for rejoicing, then what could be?

When Jesus came, giving sight to the blind, opening the ears of the deaf, healing the lame, and showing forth His power, He was fulfilling the prophecies of Isaiah. And we can even place ourselves in the one we hear today in the first reading. You and I are the redeemed, the ransomed of the LORD, who are entering into the kingdom of God, being crowned with everlasting joy. Jesus has ransomed each one of us, setting us free from bondage to sin and death, which held us hostage. And as we journey further up and further into this Kingdom which Jesus established we will be able to set aside the sorrows and burdens of life and be filled with joy and peace.

The joy and peace that arise in the life of faithful disciples are the fruit of being strong in the virtue of hope. As we are approaching the end of the Jubilee Year of Hope, and especially during the Advent season, it is important to ask once again for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit so that we may grow in this virtue. No adversity or worry in life can rob us of the peace and joy we receive when we place our hope in God.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Rom 15:13).

God Bless You,

Fr. Jack

PLEASE NOTE THE PARISH OFFICE WILL CLOSE EARLY AT 2:00 PM ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18TH.

MASS TIMES

Monday	12:15 PM
Tuesday	6:00 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM
Thursday	8:00 AM
Friday	12:15 PM
Saturday	8:00 AM
	5:00 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM
	11:00 AM

9:00 AM Mass Livestreamed here.

Recitation of the Rosary is held after daily Mass, Wednesday through Saturday.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

In the Adoration Chapel

Monday 11:00 AM-12:00 PM
Tuesday 9:00 AM-5:45 PM
Wednesday 9:00 AM-9:00 PM
Friday 1:00 PM-5:00 PM

ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

First Friday of the Month
Friday, 1:00 PM through
Saturday, 7:45 AM

CONFESSION

Monday	11:00 AM
Tuesday	6:30 PM
Friday	11:00 AM
Saturday	3:30 PM

OUR PARISH MISSION

We exist to form a community of Spirit-filled, missionary disciples of Jesus.

This Advent, we invite all parishioners to join in prayer and fasting for our parish mission. Sign up for a day of fasting to pray for our bishop, our parish community, and the raising up of young Catholic leaders.

Sign up for a date via the QR code.
Thank you!

CHRISTMAS
MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS
4 PM MASS
MIDNIGHT MASS

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS
10 AM

NEW YEARS DAY MASS
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

DECEMBER 31ST
5 PM
JANUARY 1ST
9 AM
11 AM

The Parish Office will be closed December 24th - January 1st.
NO DAILY MASS OR CONFESSIONS DEC 24TH, 25TH, 26TH & 27TH.
NO ADORATION DEC 24TH, 25TH, 26TH, 31ST & JAN 1ST.

SJ Beat

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING COMMUNITY LIFE AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

STARTING JANUARY 5TH

EXODUS
•NINETY DAYS•

EXODUS 90

INFORMATIONAL MEETING
SATURDAY, JANUARY 11TH
after the 8am Mass,
downstairs in the PLC.

Men of our parish are invited to join Fr. Dan for Exodus 90—a 90-day journey of fraternity, prayer, and ascetical discipline. Together, we will walk through the Book of Exodus with guidance from Fr. Boniface Hicks, OSB, and Jamie Baxter.

This is an opportunity to break free from the habits, distractions, and sins that keep us from living as the men God created us to be. As Christ showed us on the Cross, true freedom is found when we take responsibility for our lives and offer them generously for others. What God gives in return is deeper integrity, purpose, and lasting joy.

Please note: Exodus 90 will take the place of the Men's Breakfast until Easter.

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO AND TO SIGN UP FOR EXODUS 90

START THE NEW YEAR IN HIS PRESENCE

JANUARY ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2ND, 5PM TO
SATURDAY, JANUARY 3RD, 7:45AM
in the Adoration Chapel

ADORERS NEEDED!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP FOR ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

HOLY BREWS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7TH, 7PM

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24TH

WORSHIP NIGHT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16TH

CAMPUS MINISTRY

LIFE TOGETHER BEYOND THE SCHEDULE

In Campus Ministry, we pour our hearts into forming students and reaching others for Jesus through small groups, teachings, and our Disciples Nights. But our community doesn't end when the events do. We're a people who genuinely love living life together. Some of the most meaningful moments happen in the margins—such as men's household movie nights, laughter after women's small groups, grabbing lunch at EMU with our club advisor, Leighanne Denja, or catching a quick Chick-fil-A break between classes. We're grateful to belong to a campus ministry where spending time together isn't an obligation but a joy!

– Emily Hall
Campus Ministry Coordinator

GET CONNECTED!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE

EMAIL
@sjbcampusministry

INSTAGRAM
cm@ypsicatholic.org

"To live the faith means to build up God's Kingdom with others – never alone."
-Pope Benedict XVI

ADVENT GIVING TREE

In partnership with Hope Clinic and Catholic Charities of Washtenaw County, you can support our local neighbors this Christmas season.

Pick up a tag from one of our giving trees in the Vestibule and Gathering Space — your gift will be a tangible expression of God's love in our community.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SNOW REMOVAL

If you or your teen would be open to coming to the church after a snowfall we would really appreciate your help! No commitment required - we will contact you when we need help and be very happy when you can make it. There are a lot of entrances to the church and we want to keep everyone safe.

FOR INFORMATION OR TO VOLUNTEER, CONTACT SR. MARY: SRMARY@YPSICATHOLIC.ORG

WAITING FOR JESUS

Advent is a time when we reflect on waiting for Jesus. However, have you ever thought about those who might be waiting for YOU to bring Him to them?

Isolated members of our Catholic community in care and correctional facilities need Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to visit and share Christ's presence.

No experience is needed—training is provided, with flexible times and locations. Contact Michelle Kazanjian at 734.971.9781 x338 or mkazanjian@ccwcwashtenaw.org.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TRAINING WORKSHOP

"WHAT THE CHURCH TEACHES" SERIES

December 15th.....Rite of Anointing of the Catechumen / Q&A on the Sacraments

December 22nd.....Holiday Time Off

December 29th.....Holiday Time Off

January 5th.....Catechetical Moral Teaching (Forming conscience, natural law, commandments 1-3)

MONDAYS AT 6:30
DOWNSTAIRS IN THE PLC

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE FULL SCHEDULE.

THE THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

Prepare

"As we decorate for the Christmas season with garland, ornaments, and gifts, let us make sure that we also build in our hearts a place for Christ. When lighting the third Advent candle this week, may we recall God's love and find ways to make our homes reflect that love."
– Waiting Well, Advent with Fr. Mike Schmitz

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP FOR THE VIDEOS ON THE ASCENSION APP.

WORDS OF WISDOM

"See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one another, that you may not be judged."
- James 5:7-9

SONGS OF THE WEEK

Love Song for the Bride - Brother Isaiah / ***Vox Clara Ecce Intonat*** - See Translation by St. John Henry Newman

NEEDED, WANTED, & AVAILABLE

Bilingual Spanish Speakers Needed - Seeking Spanish-speaking parishioners to help at our food pantry on Thursday evenings. We are looking for Spirit-filled missionary disciples who can share Jesus with our Hispanic patrons. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more, contact Clare Firn, pantry@ypsicatholic.org

Transportation Help Needed- An elderly couple who live near Hewitt & Ellsworth are in need of transportation to the 11 AM Sunday Mass. If you are able to regularly assist with rides, please contact Michael at 734-328-9393.

SACRAMENTS

MATRIMONY
Couples should contact the parish office to inquire about Marriage Formation as soon as they are engaged.

BAPTISM
Parents are required to complete preparation and must be registered parishioners for at least three months. Pre-registration is required. Please call the parish office for more information.

LAY MINISTER INFORMATION
If you are interested in serving as a Liturgical Minister or wish to update your schedule preferences, please submit your request by email to schedule@ypsicatholic.org.

REQUESTING MASS INTENTIONS
Call or visit the parish office to ask for a special day. Weekday and weekend Masses are available. The stipend for a Mass intention is $10. Mass cards are also available.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK
Please call the parish office for more information.

FUNERALS
Please call the parish office for more information.

OFFICE PHONE
734-483-3360

JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR…

Katie (O'Toole) Davis
Kailyn Fitzgerald
Kris Kapcia
Ann Marie Rusiniak
Dorothy Chan
Philip Philipose
Shibu Philipose
Gemma Almendras
Jake Meyer
Pfc. Carter Hornbeck
Caroline Stramecky
David Sell
Margaret Trapp

Please call the parish office if you would like to add a name to the intercessions for healing or for those serving in the armed forces. Names remain on the list for four weeks unless you request an extension.

Our Book of Petitions is also available in the Gathering Space, and these intentions are prayed for at every Mass.

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15TH
12:15 PM:† Rev. Howard Vogen
Requested by Bruce & Lois Lapointe

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16th
6:00 PM Intentions of Pedro & Toni Esteva
Requested by Carmela Esteva

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17TH
8:00 AM Intentions of Lucy Velez
Requested by Marcy Muczynski

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18TH
8:00 AM:†Noreen Muckey
Requested by Ellen Gibson

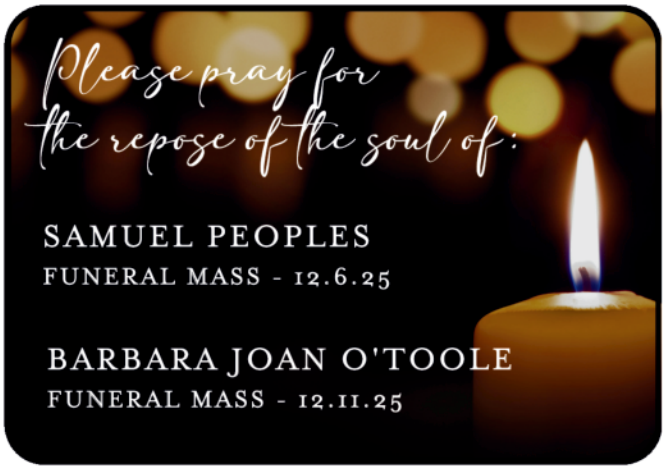
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19TH
12:15 PM: Increase in Vocations

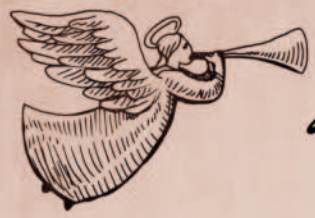
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20TH
8:00 AM: Intentions of the Firn Godchildren
Requested by Joe & Mary Firn

5 PM:† Matthew Landry
Requested by Camilla Landry

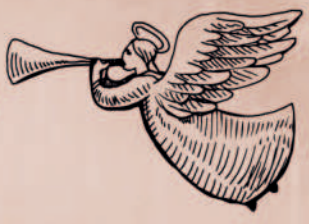
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21ST
9:00 AM:† Michael & Mary Ichesco
Requested by Mickey Ichesco

11 AM: People of the Parish





gaudete in domino semper



VISIT TO THE PARISH OF ST. JULIE BILLIART IN ROME

HOMILY OF JOHN PAUL II

Third Sunday of Advent, 13 December 1998

EXCERPTS

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near" (Entrance antiphon).

It is from this pressing invitation to rejoice, which characterizes today's liturgy, that the Third Sunday of Advent, traditionally called "Gaudete" Sunday, takes its name. This is actually the first word of today's Mass in Latin: "Gaudete", that is, rejoice, be glad because the Lord is near!

The Gospel text helps us to understand the reason for our joy, as it underscores the great mystery of salvation that takes place at Christmas. The Evangelist Matthew speaks to us of Jesus, "he who is to come" (Mt 11:3), who reveals himself as the awaited Messiah through his saving work: "the blind receive their sight and the lame walk ... the poor have good news preached to them" (Mt 11:5). He comes to console, to restore serenity and hope to the suffering, to those tired and discouraged in life.

There are still many, even in our day, who are enveloped in the darkness of ignorance and have not received the light of faith; many are lame and have difficulty in walking on the right paths; many are disappointed or discouraged; many are affected by the leprosy of sin and evil and are waiting to be saved. It is to all these that the "good news" of the Gospel, entrusted to the Christian community, is addressed. The Church, on the threshold of the third millennium, vigorously proclaims that Christ is the true liberator of man, the one who leads all humanity back to the paternal and merciful embrace of God.

"Be patient ... until the coming of the Lord" (Jas 5:7). With the message of joy characteristic of this "Gaudete" Sunday, the liturgy combines the invitation to have patience and to wait vigilantly for the coming of the Saviour, who is now close at hand.

In this regard we must know how to accept and face difficulties and adversity with a glad heart, while patiently waiting for the Saviour who comes. Eloquent is the example of the farmer that the Letter of St James offers us. He "waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it until it receives the early and the late rain". "You also be patient", the Apostle continues, "establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand" (Jas 5:7-8).

Let us open our spirit to this invitation; let us go forward with joy towards the mystery of Christmas. May Mary, who silently and prayerfully awaited the Redeemer's birth, help us to make our hearts a dwelling place to receive him worthily. Amen!

LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE
DECEMBER 20TH & DECEMBER 21ST

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY
5:00 PM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
USHERS		
Fred Burdick	Fred Hall	John Urbanic
Jeff Decker	Angela Parrinello	Carol Wack
Need Volunteer	Christine Sullivan	Andy Winnie
Need Volunteer	Brenda Swan	Vince Zahm
GREETERS		
Rebecca Thomason	John Belleba	Shelly Czupinski
Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer
LECTORS		
Ellen Gibson	Jessica Jenkins	Joe McKeone
Tom Moffit	Van Vandagriff	Theresa Urbanic
SACRISTAN		
Therese Lasswell	ADULT:	ADULT:
Need Volunteer	Lucy Shaw	Rachel Boudreaux
JUNIOR:	JUNIOR:	JUNIOR:
Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer
ALTAR SERVERS		
Damien Dahl	Kellan Gentit	Liam Netsch
Gabriel Netsch	Mathias Gentit	Lawrence Okpala
Need Volunteer	Matthew Yurko	Scott Wells

OFFICE HOURS AND INFO

PARISH OFFICE

411 Florence Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197
734.483.3360
www.ypsicatholic.org

Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Friday 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM
(Closed for lunch 12:00- 1:00)

CEMETERY

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734.368.7949

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Dcn. Curtis Scholl, Permanent Deacon
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Dcn. Mark Millage, Permanent Deacon
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Marriage Coordinator
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Food Pantry Ministry
pantry@ypsicatholic.org

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bulletin@ypsicatholic.org

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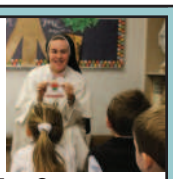
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